

July 12, 2004

Summary

On 07/12/04, at approximately 2:00 PM, a 54-year-old truck driver was fatally injured from a fall.

The victim had worked for his employer for about 18 years and was a Route Sales Representative (driver). The victim had just finished unloading his truck after returning to the distribution center following the day's deliveries. According to other employees who were in the area, but who were not direct witnesses to the accident, after unloading his truck, the victim was last seen straightening up the upper loading dock, which was located inside of the warehouse.

The loading dock is approximately 48 inches high. The victim was using dock plate and was unloading from the truck's side door. The surface of the loading area is concrete and was clean and dry. The Truck was completely unloaded and the dock plate removed and placed back in its position on the dock.

Several minutes after he was last seen on the loading dock the victim was found by one of the other drivers lying face-up on the concrete floor between the loading dock and his truck. The victim was unresponsive and was transported to the hospital by emergency response personnel where it was determined that, among other things, the victim had suffered a fractured skull.

Recommendations

- Maintain a 3-point contact (1 hand and 2 feet or 2 hands and 1 foot) when climbing on and off your truck.
- Use foot ware with soles that are less likely to slip on concrete.
- Make sure the loading area is kept free of tripping hazards.